

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
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AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 4664

LONDON FOR SEITZ

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PGOV, PINT, GH
SUBJ: OPPOSITION TO ACHEAMPONG MOUNTS

REF: ACCRA 4595

1. LAWYERS AND UNVIERSITY OF GHANA (LEGO) FACULTY MEMBERS HAVE
ADDED THEMSELVES TO GROWING LIST OF GROUPS WHO HAVE
STRUCK IN POROTEST AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS POLICIES
IN AFTERMATH OF GOG PERSONNEL CHANGES ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK.
AT CONVOCAION JUNE 17 FACULTY AT LEGON DECIDED FLATLY
TO STOP WORKING UNTIL THE GOVERNMENT STEPS DOWN. WE
HAVE NOT DETERMINED IF OTHER CAMPUS FACULTIES FOLLOWED
SUIT BUT EXPECT THAT THEY WILL. THE BAR ASSOCIATION
ANNOUNCED THE SAME DAY THAT THEY WOULD STRIKE IN PROTEST
AGAINST GOVERNMENT POLICIES "UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE". WHILE
GENERAL DISSAFFECTION FROM THE ACHEAMPONG GOVERNMENT IS
AT THE HEART OF THIS ACTION, LAWYERS ARE FOCUSING THEIR
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PROTEST ON THE SUMMARY DISMISSALS OF CHIEF JUSTIC AZU-
CRABBE AND BANK OF GHANA GOVERNOR NIKOI, AND PROBABLY
WILL CONTINUE STRIKE UNTIL THEY ARE RE-INSTATED.

2. THERE WERE NO STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS OVER THE WEEKEND,
BUT STUDENTS ARE REPORTEDLY GEARING THEMSELVES UP FOR A
SUSTAINED CONFRONTATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT. THEY HAVE

NO INTENTION OF RETURNING TO CLASS (WHICH IS ACADEMIC NOW THAT FACULTY IS OUT) BUT CONTINUE TO HOLD MEETINGS TO PLAN CONCERTED ANTI-GOVERNMENT ACTIONS. PAPERS REPORTED 20 JUNE THAT ONE MAN WAS BEATEN AND HIS CAR BURNED WHEN FOUND BY STUDENTS O THE EVENING OF JUNE 17 WITH NO GOOD REASON FOR BEING ON LEGON CAMPUS. THEY SAID HE WAS SPYING.

3. MORE OMINOUSLY, WE HAVE RECEIVED REPORTS THAT MILITARY OFFICERS, PARTICULARLY NORTHERNERS, ARE VERY DISGRUNTLED WITHH DISMISSALS OF DZANG, HAMIDU AND NUNOO-MENSAH AND ARE MEETING AMONG THEMSELVES TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE ACTION AGAINST ACHEAMPONG. ALL THREE OFFICERS ARE POPULAR AND HAVE GOOD REPUTATIONS, UNLIKE THE MORE UNSAVORY TYPES ACHEAMPONG HAS BEEN ABLE TO DISPATCH IN THE PAST.

4. ONE SEEMINGLY BRIGHT SPOT FOR ACHAMPONG IS THAT DOCTORS RETURNED TO WORK JUNE 17 AFTER ACHEAMPONG RELENTED AND RE-INSTATED DOCTORS BADDOE AND DODU TO MEDICAL SCHOOL. EVEN THIS FRAUGHT WITH PROBLEMS AS THE VARIOUS DISSIDENT GROUPS WILL CERTAINLY SENSE THE GOVERNMENT'S OVERALL WEKANESS IN CAVING IN TO A STRIKE BARELY ONE DAY OLD. ACHEAMPONG, HAS, IN FACT, PROBABLY MANEUVERED HIMSELF INTO A DILEMMA. LEADING CIVILIAN ELITES NOW OPENLY OPPOSE HIM WHILE MANY MILITARY OFFICERS ARE FED UP WITH HIM AS WELL.
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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PINS, PGOV, PINT, GH, (ACHEAMPONG, IGNATIUS KUTU)
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